Appointment of notaries

1000. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the amended Notaries Rules, Government fixed the number of notaries in Kerala at 563;

(b) whether the number is much below the number of notaries appointed in the States;

(c) whether the State Government has submitted a request for the enhancement of the number of notaries in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. The maximum number of notaries to be appointed by the State Government of Kerala was enhanced from 375 to 563 *vide* notification GSR 296(E) dated 19.05.06.

(b) Yes, Sir. According to the letter No. 19140/H2/07/Law dated 22.08.07 received from the Competent Authority and Joint Secretary to the State Government of Kerala, the State Government of Kerala has appointed 692 notaries against the maximum number of notaries to be appointed by the State Government of Kerala *i.e.* 563.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Government of Kerala has further requested for enhancement of the maximum number of notaries to be appointed by the State Government of Kerala to 1000. The maximum number of notaries to be appointed by the State Government of Kerala has been enhanced by 50% from 563 to 845 by amending the Schedule to the Notaries Rules, 1956 *vide* notification GSR 686 (E) dated 31.10.07.

Disposal of pending criminal cases

†1001. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has proposed to Government that special arrangements should be made for immediate disposal of criminal cases pending for five years or more;

(b) if so, the outlines of this proposal, alongwith the total estimated number of such cases; and

(c) the action plan formulated by Government for implementation of this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court of India in Transfer Case (Civil) No. 22/2001, Brij Mohan Lal *Vs.* Union of India & Others, that *inter alia,* deals with matters relating to Fast Track Courts which have been constituted for disposal of long pending sessions cases, has in its Order dated 20.11.2007 mentioned as follows:

> "Having heard Mr. Narasimha, learned amicus curiae and the learned Solicitor General of India, we are of the opinion that the charts, supplied by the former, may be considered

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.